CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 3 DECEMBER 1987 AT 9:15 A.M.
IN BC-110, SGW CAMPUS

ATTENDANCE:

Present were:

C.H. Langford (Chair), P. Fazio, G. Johns, P. Lightbown, B. MacKay, P. Shizgal, C.Y. Suen, M.N.S. Swamy, M. Wilkins, A.J. Williams, S. Bulzan (Secretary)

Absent with regrets:

P. Albert, J. Bardis, J. Boivin, C. Ross, M. Szabo

Guest:

Dr. J.C. Giguère

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED AND DISTRIBUTED TO SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE:

SRC-87-11-05-D34	NOTES ON GUIDELINES FOR EVALUATION OF RESEARCH CENTRES
SRC-87-12-03-D35	COMMENTS ON "FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN" BY COMPUTER RESOURCE COMMITTEE

Dr. C.H. Langford occupied the Chair.

I. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1.1 It was moved and seconded (Suen, Fazio) and unanimously RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Senate Research Committee meeting of 5 November 1987 be approved.

.../2

II. CHAIR'S REMARKS

A. Professional Consultation Overheads

2.1 The Chair reported that the Vice-Rectors had met to discuss the topic of Professional Consultation Overheads and had agreed to the recommendations made by the Senate Research Committee.

2.2 The definition of the difference between contract research and professional consulting will be returned to the Senate Research Committee for further analysis before a policy is promulgated.

B. Rumoured new NSERC program

2.1 The Chair reported that at the Strategic Grants Committee meeting in Ottawa, Arthur May, President of NSERC, made several announcements.

a) Mr. May stated that he anticipates the Prime Minister will announce an increase in funding for targeted research. Mr. May hopes to put some money into base programs. He also noted that the Energy, Foods and Ocean Strategic Programs will be reactivated.

b) Mr. May noted that the Ontario Centre for Research programs have been an important initiative. As a result, he foresees that a Federal Centre for Research program will be established.

C. January and February Senate Research Committee Meetings

2.1 Next month's meeting of the Senate Research Committee will be held 21 January, 1988. The following meeting will be held 11 February 1988. All subsequent meetings will continue to be held on the first Thursday of every month.

D. Director of Research Services - A.J. Williams

2.1 Ms. Williams reported that at the recently held Trans-Tech Exhibition, Concordia was represented by two booths - Chemistry and CBS. From the six prizes of excellence awarded, Dr. Le Van Mao and his Catalysis Laboratory received one.

.../3

2.2 Ms. Williams informed the Committee that the results of the second quarter have shown that they have exceeded the second quarter results for any year (over eight million dollars).

III. DR. J.C. GIGUERE, VICE-RECTOR, SERVICES
DISCUSSION OF THE "FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN"
(Supported by Document SRC-87-11-05-D34)

3.1 Dr. Giguère explained that the above document is still in draft form. The specifics (with short and long-term intentions) will need to be supplied by the Senate Research Committee.

3.2 The Committee discussed at length various concerns and programs they would like to see implemented which would facilitate the University research community. Some emphasis was given to encouraging development of a role in coordination rather than provision of services as the model for the Computer Centre. There is a major need among researchers for improvements in internal flow of specialized information which may exist, but is too specialized for routine delivery by Centre staff.

3.3 Dr. C.Y. Suen discussed document SRC-87-12-03-D35 (Comments on "Five-Year Strategic Development Plan") which stemmed from a department meeting with Mr. Ivan Fuchs.

3.4 Dr. Giguère briefly described the composition of the Committee involved in the Five-Year Development Plan. It consists of representatives from every faculty (individuals knowledgeable about computers), a Computer Science representative and a representative from the Administration. It is not an elected Committee.

3.5 The Vice-Rector, Services will be invited back to a Senate Research Committee meeting for further discussion of this plan.

IV. GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH CENTRES

4.1 The Chair mentioned that he would like to have something to bring forward to the February Senate meeting regarding Guidelines for Research Centres.

4.2 This item was discussed at length by the Committee. General comments included addition of the terms "Assisting and Maintenance" to the Guidelines.

4.3 The Guidelines for Evaluation of Research Centres item will be given priority for the January agenda and if necessary, the February agenda. The Chair will circulate a draft prior to the January meeting reflecting points made in the discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.